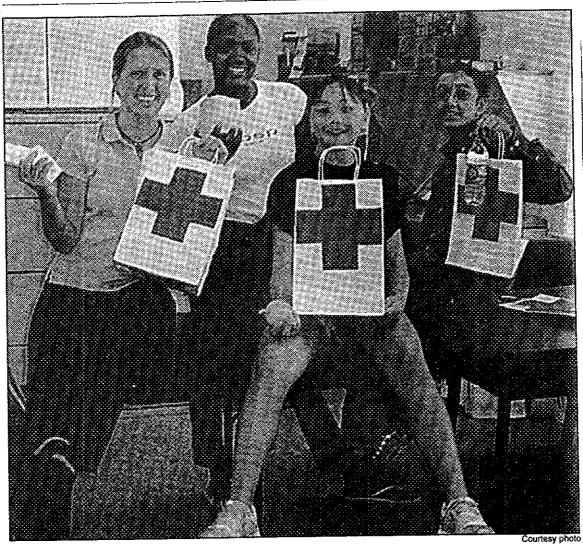
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Members of the program YOUTH GIVE, show the Bags of Cheer that garnered them a national award.

Alexandria Red Cross Project Wins Points of Light Award

The Alexandria Red Cross Youth Program's Bags of Cheer program was one of only nine projects nationwide that was selected by Connect America to receive a 2001 Connect America/Join Hands Day award.

Connect America is an initiative of the Points of Light Foundation, a national partnership of diverse organizations and businesses working collaboratively to address community problems through volunteer service

The selected program, organized by the Chapter's Youth Program Specialist Jordan White, involved providing "Bags of Cheer" with donated items of food and toiletry items to seniors living in a low-income senior housing facility. Teenagers and pre-teens of the summer YOUTH GIVE (Gaining Important Volunteer Experience) program, participated by filling the bags and delivering them to the seniors.

In the letter of congratulations to the Red Cross, Pamela Warwick of the Points of Light Foundation, said "The Alexandria Chapter stood out for the outstanding intergenerational activities bringing together

adults and youth, the exemplary community partnerships developed between American Red Cross and community stakeholders, and the future replicability of these projects."